

Remarks

By this amendment, claim 1 (the only claim pending at the time of the Office Action) has been cancelled. And new claims 2, 3 and 4 have been added. Thus only claims 2, 3 and 4 are now pending in the application.

Requirement for a new title In the Office Action, the Examiner states (point 1.) "*The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.*" By this amendment claim 1 (the only claim pending at the time of the Office Action) has been cancelled. And new claims 2, 3 and 4 have been added. The applicants submit that the present title of the invention is descriptive of the invention to which the added claims are directed.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112 and 35 U.S.C. 102

Claim 1 was rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. 112 and 35 U.S.C. 102 (points 2-6 inclusive).
Claim 1 has been cancelled by this amendment.

The canceling of claim 1 is not a statement or admission that the applicants agree with one or more of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112 or 35 U.S.C. 102 described in points 2-6 inclusive of the Office Action. The canceling of claim 1 is also not a statement or admission that the applicants will not pursue patent protection for the invention defined by claim 1 or inventions that are similar to the invention defined by claim 1 in the future.

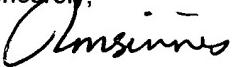
Replacement of the word "step" by "act" in claim 2: Independent claim 2 uses the word "act" instead of the word "step" that is used in the specification. The word "step" has been replaced by the word "act" to avoid any misunderstanding that this is a "step-plus-function" claim under 35 U.S.C. 112, sixth paragraph, which claim 2 is not. Claim 2 is not a "step-plus-function" claim under 35 U.S.C. 112, sixth paragraph.

Conclusion

New claims 2, 3 and 4 are now pending. The Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance and that action is earnestly solicited.

Enclosed herewith is a petition for extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136 (a) and fee for 3 month extension.

Sincerely,



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